

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

February 23, 2001 LB 154

on the committee amendments.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. The committee amendment essentially replaces the bill, but certainly not all the substance of the bill. The amendment preserves the original, but it strikes the section creating the Nebraska Correctional Medical Authority and the corollary sections that establish the authority and its duties, Sections 14 through 18 of the original bill. The striking of the sections regarding the Medical Authority was done to avoid a duplication in bureaucratic supervision as the Department of Health and Human Services has regulatory authority over the licensed healthcare professionals in the prison system, of course, as it exists. The amendment also changes the language regarding pharmaceutical care. The changes are essentially technical, they are clean-up, and they are done to make the relevant provisions, use the appropriate terminology that the profession utilizes. Further, the amendment specifies that the Division of Medical Services is to develop and implement condition-specific medical treatment protocols for gender-specific health problems and gender-specific routine healthcare services within the Department of Corrections. I trust we all recognize the desirability of insisting upon gender-specific protocols. Finally, the amendment requires the division, in developing its internal credentialing program, to confirm all professional permits, licenses or other authorization of each current healthcare staff member, by checking with the appropriate licensing or certifying agency. Obviously, good practice. That summarizes the committee amendment. These were improvements which we're making to the bill. I would urge the adoption of the amendment and the advancement of the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the opening on the committee amendments to LB 154. Open for discussion. Senator Chambers. Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I was somewhat distracted, so I don't know to what extent Senator Brashear went into the details of the committee amendment. But I'm going to mention a few items so that it will